

# Health News Release

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#### State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a health care provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

# **Benton County**

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Heather A. Hernandez** (NC10059549) with unprofessional conduct. Hernandez allegedly took a \$335 money order bought by a resident of the facility where she worked.

#### **Chelan County**

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Kristin M. Romig** (NC60334254) with unprofessional conduct. In 2016 Romig was convicted of first-degree theft, second-degree identity theft and second-degree possession of stolen property because she financially exploited a person she gave care services to.

## **Clark County**

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Christine A. Wait** (NC60350853) with unprofessional conduct. Wait allegedly used a client's credit card to buy a newspaper subscription for herself, and said she provided care for the client on dates when she wasn't there.

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In May 2016 the secretary of health denied a certified home care aide credential to **Cheryl Lynn Cruzan** (HM60613113). In 2010 and again in 2014 Cruzan was convicted of driving under the influence. In 2011 she was convicted of third-degree theft.

In June 2016 the Dental Commission charged dentist and moderate sedation with parenteral agents permit holder **Sanjeev K. Sharma** (DE00008301, CS10000466) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say an inspection of a dental office owned in-part by Sharma didn't display Sharma's dentist credential, lacked records indicating sterilizers had passed spore tests, and had indications a sterilizer had repeatedly failed spore tests.

## **Cowlitz County**

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with certified nursing assistant **Marita Ramos** (NC60390467) that places her on probation for at least three years. Ramos accepted a \$5,000 loan from the parents of a resident of an adult family home where she worked.

In May 2016 the secretary of health denied a certified home care aide credential to **Nicole Michelle Collins** (HM60590821). In 2013 Collins was convicted of attempted possession of methamphetamine. She didn't comply with a requirement to undergo a substance use evaluation.

## **King County**

In May 2016 the Unlicensed Practice Program entered an agreement with **Dianbin Sun** that requires Sun to cease and desist from practicing massage without a license, and pay a \$1,000 fine. Sun, who doesn't have a massage practitioner credential, owns a business that advertised massage.

In June 2016 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Dale A. Snoke** (RN60551053) with unprofessional conduct. Snoke's Texas nursing license was restricted in 2015 in connection with falsifying credentials and drug abuse issues.

In June 2016 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician and pharmacy assistant **Katherine E. Miethe** (VA60305188, VB60266783) with unprofessional conduct. Miethe allegedly drank alcohol during her lunch break at the pharmacy where she worked.

In June 2016 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dentist **John Brewster Bede** (DE00005217).

#### **Lewis County**

In June 2016 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician **Jamie M. Stemkoski** (VA00049312) with unprofessional conduct. Stemkoski allegedly admitted diverting medication from the pharmacy where she worked.

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# **Okanogan County**

In June 2016 the Physical Therapy Board ended probation for physical therapist **Justin L. Schober** (PT00008835).

## **Pacific County**

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Nicole Marie Leone** (NA60218982) with unprofessional conduct. Leone allegedly admitted taking narcotics intended for a patient.

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Frederick Brown** (NA00121316) with unprofessional conduct. In 2016 Brown was charged with fourth-degree assault in connection with an incident involving a patient at Western State Hospital where Brown worked.

#### **Pierce County**

In June 2016 the Dental Commission entered an agreement with dentist **Scott Ross Drake** (DE00005247) that fines him \$15,000, orders him to reimburse the commission for \$5,000 in expenses, subjects his practice to audits, and requires him and his staff to undergo continuing education. Drake practiced beyond the scope of his credential, didn't establish a sufficient doctor-patient relationship with multiple patients, and didn't adequately supervise a registered nurse who worked beyond the scope of her license.

In June 2016 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dental assistant **Joy Yvonne McIntyre** (D160389776).

## **Snohomish County**

In May 2016 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacist **Julie Sengsamouth-Le** (PH00059286) and pharmacy technician **Narine Gasparyan** (VA00039952) with unprofessional conduct, and also filed charges against **Sevan Pharmacy LLC** (CF60091011). Charges say Gasparyan and her husband own the pharmacy where Gasparyan worked, and that Sengsamouth-Le served as the pharmacy's responsible manager. Charges also say the pharmacy filled fraudulent prescriptions for controlled substances, and Gasparyan and Sengsamouth-Le knew or should have known the prescriptions were fraudulent. Gasparyan allegedly diverted controlled substances.

In June 2016 the Dental Commission entered an agreement with dentist **Massoud Khami** (DE00007413) that places him on probation for at least two years. Khami must reimburse the commission \$4,000 for legal expenses, refund \$2,000 to a patient, and complete continuing education. Khami allegedly provided substandard dental care and kept inadequate records.

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In June 2016 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dental assistant **Carrie Ann Graham** (D160325428).

## **Spokane County**

In June 2016 the Dental Commission ended probation for dentist **Richard Dean Weigand** (DE00006078).

# **Thurston County**

In June 2016 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Rebecca Lynn Taylor** (RN60105132) with unprofessional conduct. Taylor allegedly tested positive for morphine after appearing impaired while working at a skilled nursing facility.

In May 2016 the Home Care Aide Program charged home care aide **Wendy E. Lusk** (HM60310382) with unprofessional conduct. Lusk allegedly didn't provide sufficient documentation of having completed required continuing education.

In May 2016 the secretary of health denied a certified nursing assistant credential to **Ryan Jacob Krause** (NC60584018). In 2014 Krause was convicted of violation of a protection order. Krause, didn't comply with a requirement to submit an examination report to the Department of Health.

In June 2016 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Samuel C. Eggert** (NC60579746) with unprofessional conduct. In 2015 Eggert entered a diversion agreement requiring him to undergo drug and alcohol abuse evaluation and treatment. Charges say he didn't respond to a Department of Health inquiry.

#### **Yakima County**

In June 2016 the Radiologic Technologist Program reinstated the radiologic technologist credential of **Victoria M. Eberle** (RT00003428), whose license was suspended in 2010 after she admitted taking money patients had paid for treatment.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.